

CHAPTER 13 — VEHICLE TITLING AND REGISTRATION

WHAT IS A TITLE?

A title is proof that you own your vehicle. When you buy a vehicle, you must apply for a title within 30 days. If you do not apply for a title within 30 days, you must pay a penalty fee.

WHAT YOU NEED TO GET A TITLE

NEW VEHICLE BOUGHT IN MISSOURI — The dealer will give you a title application and an assigned Manufacturer's Statement of Origin. The Manufacturer's Statement of Origin indicates the vehicle is new and has never been registered. The dealer and purchaser must complete the odometer disclosure portion on the back of the Manufacturer's Statement of Origin.

USED VEHICLE BOUGHT IN MISSOURI — You must get a properly assigned title (refer below) from the seller that proves you have bought the vehicle. If you bought the used vehicle from a dealer, you should also receive a completed title application. A proper odometer disclosure is required on vehicles less than 10 years old. If the title assigned to you is an out-of-state title, you must get an identification number and odometer (ID/OD) verification form completed by a licensed inspection station.

PROPERLY ASSIGNED TITLE

A properly assigned title has the the following information completed in the assignment area:

- Buyer's name and address;
- Odometer reading, if applicable;
- Sale price of the vehicle;
- Date of the sale;
- Name of any lienholder, if applicable;
- Signature and printed name of all sellers; and
- Buyer's printed name and signature, if applicable.

NEW VEHICLE BOUGHT IN ANOTHER STATE — You must get the dealer's invoice or a bill of sale and assigned Manufacturer's Statement of Origin from the out-of-state dealer. The dealer and new purchaser must complete the odometer disclosure portion on the back of the Manufacturer's Statement of Origin.

USED VEHICLE BOUGHT IN ANOTHER STATE — You must get a properly assigned title from the owner, or a reassigned title from the dealer. If the state does not require a title, you must get a notarized bill of sale and the vehicle's last certificate of registration in that state. A proper odometer disclosure is required on vehicles less than 10 years old. If the title assigned to you is an out-of-state title, you must get an identification number and odometer (ID/OD) verification form completed by a licensed inspection station.

SALVAGE VEHICLE — For information on titling a vehicle bought for salvage, dismantling, or rebuilding, call (573) 751-4509, or write to:

Missouri Department of Revenue
Motor Vehicle Bureau
301 West High Street – Room 370
P.O. Box 100
Jefferson City, Missouri 65105-0100

ODOMETER READING — When you buy or sell a vehicle that is less than 10 years old, the seller must write the mileage reading on the title assignment. If the vehicle is new, the odometer reading must be on the Manufacturer's Statement of Origin. Both the buyer and the seller must print and sign their names verifying the mileage. In some instances a separate odometer statement may be required.

WHERE TO GET A TITLE

You may apply for a title at any license office. The title will cost \$8.50, and you will be required to pay a \$2.50 processing fee. You will have to pay all state and local sales tax due to get your title. For information on the amount of sales tax you will have to pay, contact any license office or call (573) 526-3669, or visit our web site at **www.dor.mo.gov**.

When you apply for a title, you will get a validated receipt. The department will mail the title to you.

DO NOT keep your title in your vehicle. You may keep your registration receipt in your vehicle.

VEHICLE REGISTRATION

You may obtain a two-year registration if your vehicle qualifies at the time you purchase new license plates or renew or transfer your current license plates. To register your vehicle, you must have:

- Notice from the department to renew your registration, a registration receipt from the previous year, or a copy of your title (If you **do not** receive a renewal notice, you are still required by law to renew your plates **before** they expire).
- Original current certificate of safety/emissions inspection no more than 60 days old, if applicable (refer to Chapter 12).
- A current insurance identification card or other proof of financial responsibility.
- An original paid personal property tax receipt or a statement of non-assessment from your county of residence (or city of St. Louis) for the previous year for a one-year registration. Two-year registrations require receipts or statements from the prior two years.
- The correct registration fee.

ONLINE LICENSE PLATE RENEWAL

You may be eligible to renew your plates online at **www.plates.mo.gov**. If you are eligible for this convenient option, a Personal Identification Number

(PIN) will be printed on your renewal notice. If you did not receive a renewal notice or if you do not have a PIN, you will not be eligible for online renewal, but you may visit any license office to complete your renewal.

NEW MISSOURI RESIDENTS

You must register your vehicle within 30 days of becoming a Missouri resident. To register your vehicle, you must surrender your out-of-state title. After you surrender your out-of-state title, a Missouri title will be issued and mailed to you.

If a financial institution has your title, you must provide your out-of-state registration, lienholder's name, and lienholder's address. The license office will request the title from your lienholder.

WHERE TO REGISTER YOUR VEHICLE

You can register your vehicle at any license office. If you are registering a passenger vehicle, your registration fee will be based on your vehicle's taxable horsepower. If you are registering a commercial vehicle, your registration fee will be based on its zone and gross weight. An additional processing fee will apply.

SELLING A VEHICLE

Effective January 1, 2006, you must report the sale of your motor vehicle or all-terrain vehicle by completing a Notice of Sale (DOR-5049) and submitting it to any license office within 30 days.

MISSOURI LICENSE PLATE INFORMATION

The words "SHOW ME STATE" appear across the bottom of the standard license plate. A month tab and a year tab are located on the license plate. Each month's tab is a different color.

The regular passenger plate "license number" is three numerics/three alphas (NNN AAA). The truck plate "license numbers" are three numerics/two alphas/one numeric (NNN AAN).

PERSONALIZED PLATES

When you register your vehicle, you may apply for personalized plates. The charge for personalized plates is \$15 for one year or \$30 if you choose a two-year registration, in addition to the normal registration fee.

LOST TITLE, PLATES, OR TABS

If your license plate(s), tab(s), or title is lost or destroyed, you must apply for a duplicate. The charge for a duplicate title is \$8.50; the charge for duplicate plates is \$8.50 per plate; and the charge for a set of replacement tabs is \$8.50. An additional processing fee will apply.

New legislation allows you to replace stolen license plates/tabs up to two times per year at NO COST (\$3.50 processing fee is applicable) if you provide one of the following:

- Copy of police report;
- Copy of Missouri Uniform Law Enforcement System; or
- Affidavit from law enforcement signed and notarized.

YOU MAY RENEW YOUR PLATES UP TO 6 MONTHS BEFORE THEY EXPIRE!